Goals and Objectives:
Manage the response and coordination of staff/equipment in the Operating Rooms during a power failure.

Step by step approach:

1. Call for help.
2. Obtain light source (cell phone, flashlight, laryngoscope).
3. Check ventilator status.
   a) Functioning:
      • Make sure it is plugged into the red outlet
      • Continue the use with non-desflurane vaporizers.
      • Change FIO2 to 100% and O2 flow to 2 L/min.
   b) Non-functioning:
      • Oxygen flowmeters and flush valve function despite power outage.
      • Manually ventilate using pipeline oxygen or use Oxygen E-Cylinder using FiO2 100% at 2 L/min.
      • Utilize non-desflurane vaporizers.
      • Plug into a different red outlet and turn the machine on again to see if it now works.
4. Obtain battery powered transport monitors from anesthesia techs. If not enough monitors available, may need to use “POWER FAILURE KIT” which includes portable pulse oximeter, EZ cap, light source, BP monitoring, this checklist, and paper record.
5. Consider transition from controlled to spontaneous ventilation if possible to conserve ventilator battery.
6. Consider switching to TIVA if possible and obtain additional propofol, midazolam and fentanyl from pharmacy in anticipation.
7. Use a colorimetric CO2 monitor (EZ cap) and auscultate bilateral breath sounds.
8. Make sure all critical equipment is plugged into RED outlets
9. Chart vital signs every 5 minutes on paper anesthesia chart.
10. Communicate with the surgical team regarding anticipated surgical time. For stable patients, consider staying in the OR to abort or complete procedure. For unstable patients, consider evacuation.
For “helping personnel” including Anesthesia Technicians:

2. Provide manual transport monitors for vital signs monitoring.
3. Confirm that critical equipment including the ventilator is plugged into RED outlet.
4. Ensure that Alaris pumps are adequately charged so there is no interruption in infusions that are running.
5. Provide paper anesthesia charts to the running ORs.